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Daniel John Lloyd-Jones

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FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

FABER, DAVID

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/826,935	Applicant(s) LLOYD-JONES ET AL.	
	Examiner DAVID FABER	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,11-15,18-21,23,26-28,34-38,41-54 and 56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-5, 11-15, 18-21, 23, 26-28, 34-38, 41-54, and 56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/27/09, 2/27/09</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the Request for Continued Examination filed on 27 January 2009 and the Information Disclosure Statements filed on 27 January 2009 and 27 February 2009.
2. Claims 1, 3, 5, 11-14, 21, 23, 26, 28, 34-37, 44-48, 50-53, and 56 have been amended.
3. The objection of the specification has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment. The rejection of Claims 23, 26-28, 34-38, 41-44, and 50-54 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment. The rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20-21, 23, 26-28, 34, 36, 38, 41, 43-54, and 56 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al (US Patent #6,687,878, filed 3/15/1999) in further in view of Berquist et al (US Patent #5,821,931, patented 10/13/1998) in further view of Schneiderman (US PGPub 2002/0054059 filed on 10/5/2001, which is cont. of PCT /US01/04963 filed 2/16/2001, which is a non-provisional of provisional application filed 4/17/2000, which is a non-provisional of provisional application filed 2/18/2000) in further view of Murray et al (US Patent #6,597,800, filed 9/22/1999) in further view of Blank (US Patent 5469536, published 11/21/1995) in further view of Conlon et al (US Patent 6,411,313, filed 6/14/1999) has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment. The rejection of Claims 12 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al in further in view of Berquist et al in further view of Schneiderman in further view of Murray et al in further view of Blank in further view of Conlon et al in further view of Takaha (US Patent

Art Unit: 2178

#6,021,221, patented 2/1/2000) has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment. The rejection of Claims 14 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al in further in view of Berquist et al in further view of Schneiderman in further view of Murray et al in further view of Blank in further view of Conlon et al in further view of in further view of Doyle (US Patent #6,616,701, filed 4/3/2001; continuation of appl #09/316,496, filed 5/21/1999; provisional appl.

#60/086,620, filed 5/23/1998) has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment. The rejection of Claims 19 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al in further in view of Berquist et al in further view of Schneiderman in further view of Murray et al in further view of Blank in further view of Conlon et al in further view of Balabanovic et al (US Patent #6,976,229, filed 12/16/1999).

has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

4. Claims 1, 3-5, 11-15, 18-21, 23, 26-28, 34-38, 41-54, and 56 are pending. Claims 1, 23, and 56 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 27 January 2009 and 27 February 2009 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1, 3-5, 11-15, 18, 20-21, 23, 26-28, 34-38, 41, 43-54, and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al (US Patent #6,687,878, filed 3/15/1999) in further in view of Berquist et al (US Patent #5,821,931, patented 10/13/1998) in further view of Schneiderman (US PGPub 2002/0054059 filed on 10/5/2001, which is cont. of PCT /US01/04963 filed 2/16/2001, which is a non-provisional of provisional application filed 4/17/2000, which is a non-provisional of provisional application filed 2/18/2000) in further view of Murray et al (US Patent #6,597,800, filed 9/22/1999) in further view of Knowlton et al (US Patent 5973692, published 10/26/1999) in further view of Conlon et al (US Patent 6,411,313, filed 6/14/1999)

As per independent Claim 1, Eintracht et al discloses a method comprising:

- Displaying the plurality of icons, each of the icons being labelled with one or more of the metadata labels with which the icon was associated. (Fig 1B, 1C, indicator 16: Discloses a plurality of notes in a location that was predetermined placed being attached to various regions on the image (Column 7, lines 1-5) Column 15, lines 11-13, e.g., discloses text can be inputted which produces the note as a label, thus displayed as a metadata

Art Unit: 2178

- label. In addition, the note itself is the icon, while the text input is the labeling aspect of the icon. Thus, Eintracht et al's note is an icon with metadata label capabilities of being displayed)
- Detecting selection of at least one of the displayed plurality of icons. (Column 15, lines 24-27: Discloses selecting a note to be dragged and dropped to another location on an image. The detection is inherently detected by positioning the cursor over the note and activating the cursor to note enabling it to be moved or dragged to a new location.)
 - linking the one or more metadata labels associated with the selected icon with a description of the location of the selected subject within the image, and storing the linked one or more metadata labels and the description as an annotation of the image. (Eintracht et al discloses in Column 19, lines 42-67, notes are stored being associated with a document or image and in FIG 11; Column 17, lines 29-30, Eintracht et al discloses an anchor field for each note in a database that stores the coordinates of the of the note in the document thus linking the note to the document and disclosing the precise location of the note in the document.)

On the other hand, Eintracht et al fails to specifically disclose displaying the image adjacent to said plurality of icons. However, Berquist et al discloses in FIG 4, a number of notes being displaying adjacent to an application program executing window containing a document. In addition, FIG 6 discloses a note placed adjacent to a window containing a document before being dragged onto the document. While Berquist et al

Art Unit: 2178

discloses an embodiment of notes being adjacent to document, Berquist et al discloses a note may be attached to a graphic or a video frame. It was well-known in the art at the time of Applicant's invention document have the ability to contain images, or the application program running had the ability to only show an image, thus therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention that a note could be displayed adjacent to the image within a document or within an application program since Berquist et al would have provided the benefit to Eintracht et al in which preventing objects on the screen from overlapping, and being able to determine a location prior in moving the object onto the desired location.

However, Eintracht and Berquist fail to specifically disclose extracting a plurality of metadata labels from an extracting a plurality of metadata labels from an existing database of metadata labels to form a list of metadata labels; said metadata labels are generated prior to having knowledge of the content of the image. However, Schneiderman discloses list of metadata labels, i.e. names of people that appear in a selectable menu list wherein the list of names have been previously entered into the database. (FIG 3, Paragraph 0011, 0015, 0049) Thus, the names were extracted from the database and displayed into a selectable list before having knowledge of the content of the image appearing next to the list.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have modified Eintracht and Berquist with Schneiderman ability to display a list of names labels that were extracted from a database since it would have provided the benefit of addresses known problems of annotating commercial and/or

Art Unit: 2178

personal electronic images, by providing software that permits users to easily accomplish such annotation, through the drag-and-drop of annotations from a predefined list.

However, Eintracht, Berquist, and Schneiderman fail to specifically disclose detecting a subject within the image, using an image detection method, to form an automatically placed bounded region within the image, the automatically placed bounded region substantially surrounding the detected subject subject within said image. However, Murray et al discloses automatically subjecting the image to primary segmentation in which the image is divided up into one or more primary homogenous regions each approximating to an object of interest presented by a displayed bounding box, wherein each bounding box is the rectangle which encloses the segmented pixels forming a primary homogenous region which depicts objects of interest (Column 2, lines 63-65; Column 4, lines 27-30) Since Murray discloses a method of detecting objects in an image and automatically placing bounding boxes around objects of interest, this is consider an image detection method.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman's method with Murray et al's method since Murray et al's method would have provided the benefit of an automatic recognition of subjects to identify the presence of people.

In addition, Eintracht discloses the ability to view, create, modify, or delete notes (a form of an icon) (Column 15, lines 10-37). Therefore, one can delete the icon located

Art Unit: 2178

on the selected subject, and either create a new note or move a note to a new location onto that subject. However, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman's method, and Murray et al fail to specifically disclose adjusting the automatically placed bounded region by re-sizing, moving or erasing the bounded region based on user input and replacing a default icon of the linked one or more metadata labels with an image of the selected subject, the image of the selected subject being extracted based on the adjusted bounded region. However, Knowlton et al discloses the ability for a user to intervene and adjust the source region after Knowlton's method of automatically selecting a portion of the original image occurs. (Col 15, lines 31-37; Col 28, lines 17-25) Such adjustment methods include re-positioning and re-sizing. (Col 15, lines 50-56) In addition, once the area has selected, it is formed into a graphical icon wherein the selected area of image from within bounded region is extracted and represented as a graphical icon. (Col 10, lines 48-52, Col 11, lines 15-20; Col 14, lines 10-15) Thus, in conjunction with Eintracht, a user can delete the note and use the newly created graphical icon that includes the extracted portion of the original image; a thus a form of replacing.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman's method, and Murray et al, with Knowlton et al's method since Knowlton et al's method of creating graphical icons since have provided the benefit wherein the icons provide significantly less space to store and display than do the typical compressed "thumbnail"

Art Unit: 2178

images of the prior art, and less network time to communicate from one system to another.

Furthermore, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman, Murray et al, and Knowlton et al fail to specifically disclose dragging the selected icon to the image, such that the adjusted bounded region is changed upon the selected icon being dragged over the adjusted bounded region, in order to emphasize the adjusted bounded region and dropping the selected icon within the adjusted bounded region on, wherein the adjusted bounded region corresponds to a selected subject within the image;. However, Conlon et al discloses an feature wherein a user using a mouse clicks and drags an icon over a (bounded) region for the icon to be dragged, the region is highlighted by the change the color of its outline. Thus, when the releases the icon over the region, the icon is dropped into the region of subject interest. (FIG 4A, Column 6, line 66 – Col 7, line 20)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman's, Murray et al, and Knowlton with Conlon et al method's of drop and drag functionality involving regions since Conlon et al's method would have provided the benefit to informing the user of what region an icon would be dropped in if done so by displaying a more clearly graphically indication, such as, highlighting, the region in which the icon is hovering over.

As per dependent Claims 3 and 4, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman fail to specifically disclose the automatically placed bounded region is formed based on an analysis of pixels of the image and the analysis of the colour

Art Unit: 2178

information of the pixels of the image. However, Murray et al discloses a process in which an image is captured by a camera utilizing a two dimensional array of light intensity sensitive pixels that carries out the processing on the image data to separate and identify objects from the background appearing in the image. (Column 1, lines 15-30) Then, Murray et al discloses the bounding box encloses segmented pixels forming homogeneous region of objects of interest. (Column 2, lines 63-65; Column 4, lines 27-30) Therefore, when objects are being identified, being bounded with boxes and separated based on the interest, pixels are being analyzed to determined which pixels are the same within the region to be separate from the different region of pixels based on the color of the pixel or the difference of visible light shown.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman's method with Murray et al's method since Murray et al's method since Murray et al's method would have provided the benefit of an automatic recognition of a target object that improves the accuracy of target object recognition and identification.

As per dependent Claims 5, 13, and 48, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman fail to specifically disclose the automatically placed bounded region corresponding to the selected subject is of a predetermined size or determined automatically, and the size of the adjusted bounded region corresponding to the selected subject is determined based on the analysis. However, Murray et al discloses the bounding box just encloses the segmented pixels forming a primary homogenous region. (Column 2, lines 63-65; Column 4, lines 27-30) Therefore, only bounding related

Art Unit: 2178

pixels, the box is determined automatically and is predetermined based on the number of related pixels. In addition, when objects are being identified, being bounded with boxes and separated based on the interest, pixels are being analyzed to determined which pixels are the same within the region to be separate from the different region of pixels. Thus, the size is being determined to form a homogenous region.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman's method with Murray et al's method since it provided the benefit of only bounding a region of related pixels of interest from regions of no interest.

As per dependent Claim 11, 12, and 14, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman, and Murray fail to specifically disclose the step of extracting a part of the image based on the bounded region corresponding to the selected subject, displaying the extracted part of the image and that the size of the adjusted bounded region is changeable by the user in response to receiving a user instruction via the graphical user interface. However, Knowlton et al discloses extracting a part of the image based on the bounded region corresponding to the selected subject, displaying the extracted part of the image and that the size of the adjusted bounded region is changeable by the user in response to receiving a user instruction via the graphical user interface. (Col 15, lines 1-5; Col 16, lines 52-55; Col 17, 5-10; Col 28, lines 17-25)

As per dependent Claim 15, Claim 15 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is rejected under similar rationale. Furthermore, Eintracht et al discloses:

Art Unit: 2178

- wherein one or more metadata labels are stored as the annotation of the subject and are displayed upon selecting the subject in the image. (Column 7, lines 13-17, discloses when a note is selected on the note list, its counterpart icon in the document window frame is highlighted)

As per dependent Claim 18, Eintracht et al discloses a method:

- wherein said storing step included storing the one or more metadata labels as the annotation of the subject of the image by using a tag indicating an association with the image (Column 3 Lines 13-36 i.e. the document file for storing one or more documents, a notes database located on the server, the notes database for storing one or more notes, each note or tag associated with a particular document or subject, one or more notes clients coupled to a network, each notes client operative to locally display a representation of a document remotely stored on the server in the document file, the notes client adapted to permit a user to annotate the document with one or more notes, the notes client operative to simultaneously display the one or more notes associated with the document over the displayed document such that the document is viewable along with the one or more notes)

As per dependent Claim 20, Eintracht et al discloses a method further comprising:

- the step of e-mailing at least the image to at least one e-mail address based on the one or more metadata labels associated with the image. (Column 22 Lines 33-37 i.e. emails to client or user)

As per dependent claim 21, Claim 21 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claim 23, Claim 23 recites a “computer readable medium...” for performing the method of Claim 1, and therefore is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 26, Claim 26 recites similar limitations as in Claim 3 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 27, Claim 27 recites similar limitations as in Claim 4 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 28, Claim 28 recites similar limitations as in Claim 5 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 34, Claim 34 recites similar limitations as in Claim 11 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 35, Claim 35 recites similar limitations as in Claim 12 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 36, Claim 36 recites similar limitations as in Claim 13 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 37, Claim 37 recites similar limitations as in Claim 14 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 38, Claim 38 recites similar limitations as in Claim 15 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 41, Claim 41 recites similar limitations as in Claim 18 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 43, Claim 43 recites similar limitations as in Claim 20 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 44, Claim 44 recites similar limitations as in Claim 21 and is similar rejected under rationale. As per dependent Claims 45 and 46, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman, and Murray to specifically disclose the description includes a location and the size of the adjusted bounded region corresponding to the selected subject within the image. However, discloses the ability for a user to intervene and adjust the source region after Knowlton et al's method of automatically selecting a portion of the original image occurs. The user is provided a mouse controlled "stretchy rectangle" used to select a portion of the original image for extraction wherein the rectangle may conform to a range of dimensions and aspect ratios. Thus, the size is based on the range of dimensions and the location is found by where the rectangle is located. (Col 14, lines 49-56, 63-67; Col 15, lines 31-37)

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, and Schneiderman, and Murray method with Knowlton et al's method of a bounding box since the bounding box data would have provided the user information on the location of a area of interest to extract and the size of the area of interest within an image.

As per dependent Claim 47, Claim 47 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 49, Eintracht et al discloses a method:

Art Unit: 2178

- the linked one or more metadata labels and the descriptions are stored as an annotation of the subject of the image. (Eintracht et al discloses in Column 19, lines 42-67, notes are stored being associated with a document or image and in FIG 11; Column 17, lines 29-30, Eintracht et al discloses an anchor field for each note in a database that stores the coordinates of the of the note in the document thus linking the note to the document and disclosing the precise location of the note in the document.)

As per dependent Claims 50-51, Claim 50-51 recites similar limitations as in Claim 45-46 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claims 52, Claim 52 recites similar limitations as in Claim 47 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent claim 53, Claim 53 recites similar limitation as in Claim 14 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Knowlton et al discloses the size of the adjusted region is based on the user's analysis. (Col 14, lines 62-67; Col 15, lines 31-37)

As per dependent Claim 54, Claim 54 recites similar limitations as in Claim 49 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per independent claim 56, Claim 56 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Schneiderman discloses displaying a representation of each of the metadata labels in the list. (FIG 3)

8. Claims 19 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eintracht et al (US Patent #6,687,878, filed 3/15/1999) in further in view of Berquist et al (US Patent #5,821,931, patented 10/13/1998) in further view of Schneiderman (US PGPub 2002/0054059) in further view of Murray et al (US Patent #6,597,800, filed 9/22/1999) in further view of Knowlton et al (US Patent 5973692, published 10/26/1999) in further view of Conlon et al (US Patent 6,411,313, filed 6/14/1999) in further view in further view of Balabanovic et al (US Patent #6,976,229, filed 12/16/1999).

As per dependent Claim 19, Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman, Murray et al, Blank and Conlon et al fail to specifically disclose the one or more predetermined metadata labels associated with the subject of the image are stored in an XML file. However, Balabanovic et al discloses metadata regarding information to an image being stored in an XML format/file. (FIG 5(a,b)-6; Column 10, lines 1-3, 21- 22, 40-41)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Eintracht et al, Berquist et al, Schneiderman, Murray et al, Knowlton and Conlon et al's method with Balabanovic et al's method of using metadata in XML format since it would have provided the benefit of flexibility to for the file to be easily translated into other formats to viewed by other on different devices.

As per dependent Claim 42, Claim 42 recites similar limitations as in Claim 13 and is similar rejected under rationale.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-5, 11-15, 18-21, 23, 26-28, 34-38, 41-54, and 56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Arguments address regarding of the new limitations of Claims 1, 23, and 56 brought forth in “adjusting the automatically placed bounded region by re-sizing, moving or erasing the bounded region based on user input and replacing a default icon of the linked one or more metadata labels with an image of the selected subject, the image of the selected subject being extracted based on the adjusted bounded region” has been viewed the new ground of rejection of 35 USC 103(a) under new references using Knowlton et al.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Knowlton et al US Patent 6,181,838 filed 4/29/1999
- Bates et al US Patent 6,456,307 filed 9/9/1998

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Faber whose telephone number is 571-272-2751. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8am to 430pm.

Art Unit: 2178

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong, can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/David Faber/
Examiner, Art Unit 2178

	/CESAR B PAULA/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2178
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